

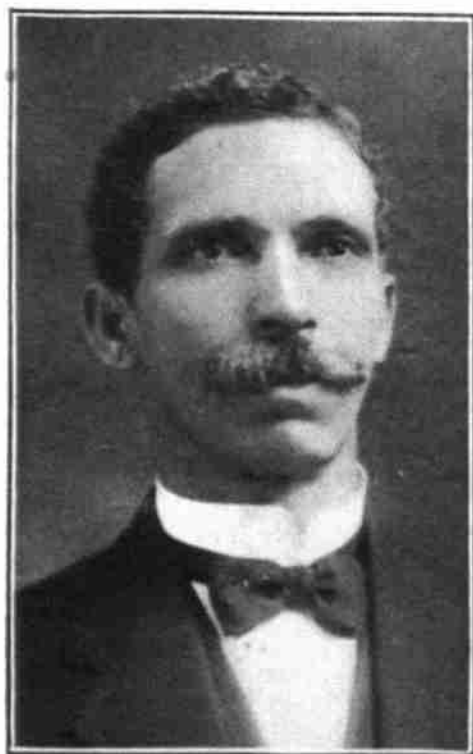
## A Great Opportunity

Rev. H. L. McCrorey, D.D.

President Biddle University, Charlotte, N. C.  
At Clifton Conference, August 19, 1908

**T**HE Negroes of this country are facing a crisis in their history.

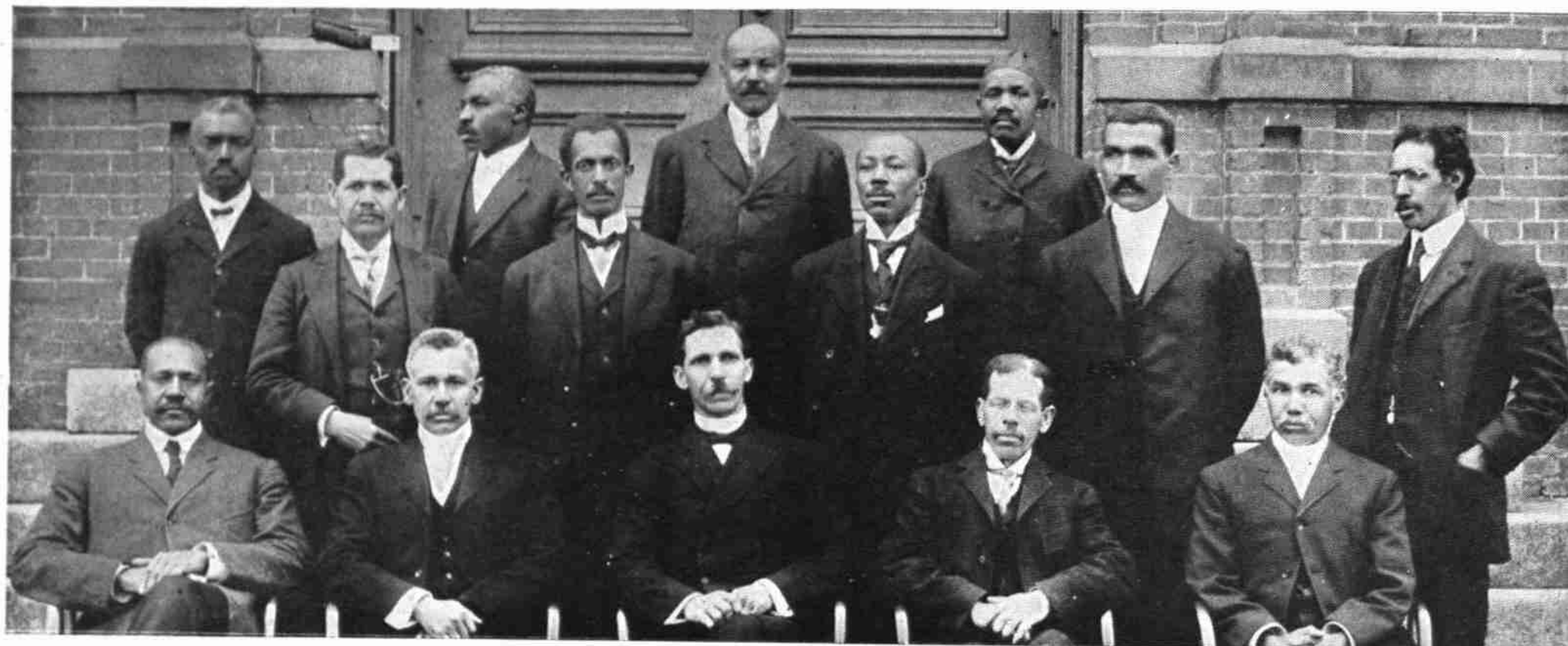
The majority of them have been asleep to their present condition, having no aspiration for better things. But they are now awakening. And as they consider their surroundings they are becoming dissatisfied with their present condition and are trying to determine what course to pursue.



President H. L. McCrorey

Now is the opportunity for the International Sunday School Association to render the Negro an inestimable service in opening up ways by which Bible truths may be inculcated in the mind and heart of the Negro youth, for the way of the Bible is the only safe way, not for the Negro alone, but for all mankind, since it is the revelation of the character and will of God, and the Sunday-school is the most potential means of conveying these truths to the mind and heart of the youth, provided the teachers or workers are adequately trained.

The Negro Sunday-schools are, in a great measure, not equipped with efficiently trained

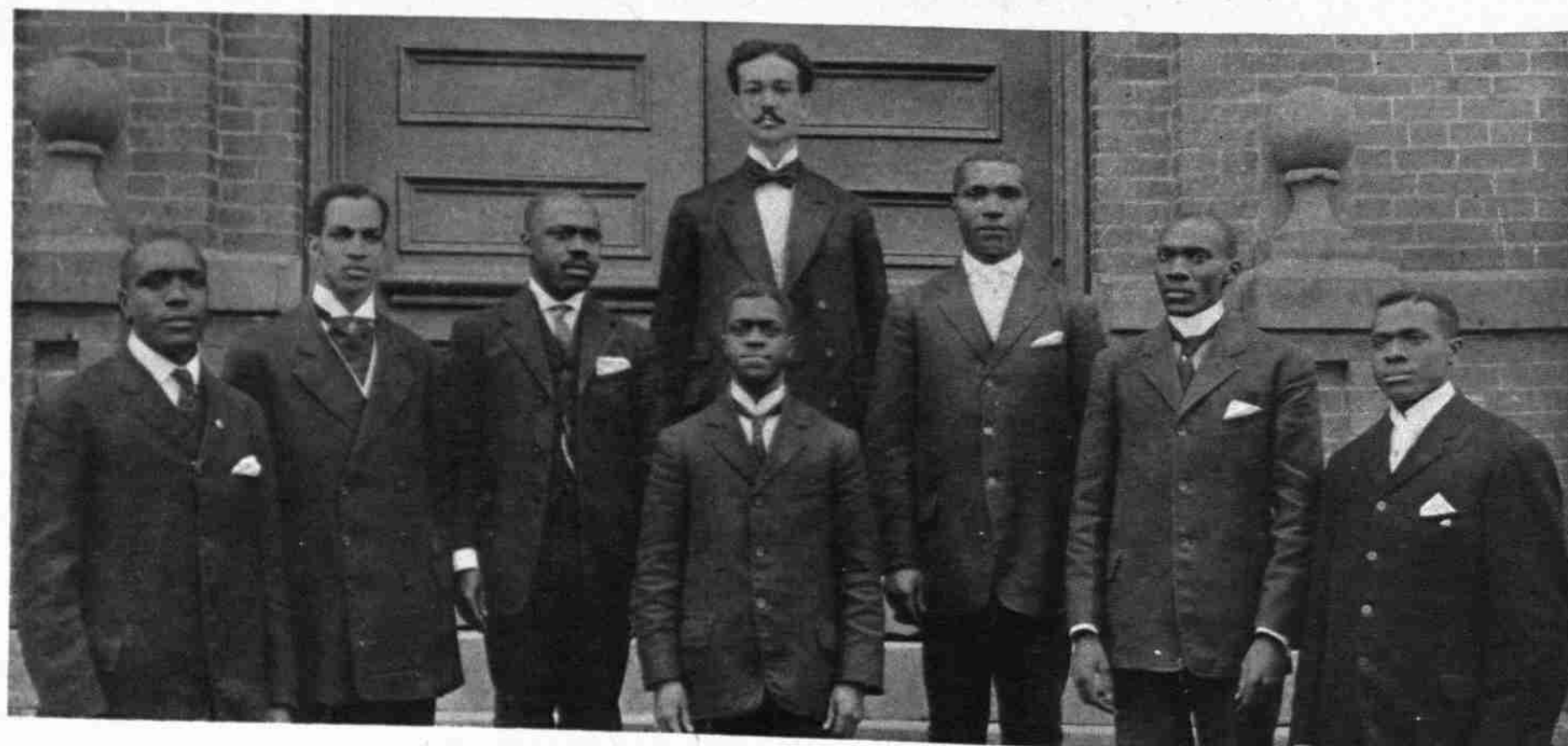


FACULTY, BIDDLE UNIVERSITY, PRESIDENT McCROREY, CENTRE, FIRST ROW

The great danger now is that they may take the wrong course, for there are a great many ways which, if followed, will not better their present condition. The way of wealth alone is unsafe, the way of politics treacherous, and the way of education apart from moral training is dangerous. There are other ways equally as perilous. Either of these ways the Negro, being in a state of unrest and desirous of bettering his present condition, is liable to choose.

teachers. As I see it, the International Sunday-School Association is in position to offer a course of training in our colleges and seminaries which would adequately equip persons for effective Sunday-school work.

The Sunday-school means more for the Negro race at present than it does for the white race. In a large number of Negro homes there is no one able to teach the Bible. In these cases, Bible training of the children is dependent on the Sunday-school. But the Sunday-school cannot meet successfully this grave responsibility without properly trained preachers and teachers. Such preachers and teachers need not be expected from theological seminaries until the curricula of these seminaries are so revised as to offer special training with a view to effective Sunday-



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